

AMENDMENTS**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Currently amended) A method for treating a non-cancerous melanin related affliction in a patient in need thereof, the method comprising the step[[s]] of
 - a) ~~identifying a patient in need of treatment for a melanin related affliction, wherein the affliction can be treated with an administration of a botulinum toxin, and~~
 - b) ~~administering the a botulinum toxin to in the vicinity of a skin region exhibiting a symptom of the melanin related affliction; of the patient, thereby treating the melanin related affliction.~~

wherein the botulinum toxin administration to the skin region alleviates the melanin related affliction symptom in the patient.
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the melanin related affliction is a ~~skin pigmentation disorder~~ associated with decreased pigmentation of the skin region, and the botulinum toxin is administered to increase ~~or decrease the~~ pigmentation of the skin region.
3. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the melanin related affliction is skin pigmentation disorder associated with increased pigmentation of the skin region, and the botulinum toxin is administered to decrease ~~is treated by increasing the~~ pigmentation of the skin region ~~treated so that the treated skin becomes darker.~~
4. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein ~~the skin pigmentation disorder is treated by decreasing the pigmentation of the skin treated so that the treated skin becomes lighter~~ the botulinum toxin is administered to reduce a symptom of the melanin related affliction selected from the group of symptoms consisting of pain, inflammation and vascularization.

5. (Currently amended) A method for ~~influencing~~ treating a non-cancerous skin pigmentation disorder in a patient in need thereof, the method comprising the step[[s]] of

~~a) identifying a patient in need of influencing skin pigmentation, wherein the pigmentation can be influenced by an administration of a botulinum toxin, and~~

~~b) administering the a botulinum toxin to in the vicinity of a skin region exhibiting a symptom of the skin pigmentation disorder; of the patient, thereby treating the melanin-related affliction.~~

wherein the botulinum toxin administration to the skin region alleviates the skin pigmentation disorder symptom in the patient.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 16~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~step of administering a botulinum toxin reduces the size of the melanin-related affliction on the skin~~ is a native botulinum toxin.

8. (Currently amended) A method for ~~altering~~ treating hair color pigmentation in a patient in need thereof, the method comprising the step[[s]] of

~~a) identifying a patient in need of altering hair color, wherein the hair color can be altered by an administration of a botulinum toxin, and~~

~~b) administering the a botulinum toxin to the hair, thereby altering the hair color. in the vicinity of a skin region exhibiting a change in hair color pigmentation;~~

wherein the botulinum toxin administration to the skin region alleviates the hair color pigmentation change in the patient.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the hair color pigmentation change is a decrease in hair color pigmentation and the step of administering a botulinum toxin is administered to increase[[s]] ~~the amount of hair color pigmentation in the hair so that the hair becomes darker.~~
10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the hair color pigmentation change is an increase in hair color pigmentation and the step of administering a botulinum toxin is administered to decrease[[s]] ~~the amount of hair color pigmentation in the hair so that the hair becomes lighter.~~
11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of a botulinum toxin type[[s]] A, a botulinum toxin type B, a botulinum toxin type C, a botulinum toxin type D, a botulinum toxin type E, a botulinum toxin type F and a botulinum toxin type G.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is a botulinum toxin type A.
- 13 (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is administered in an amount of between about 1 unit and about 3,000 units.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the administration is by topical or subcutaneous administration of the botulinum toxin.
- 15-17. (Canceled)
18. (Previously presented) A method for treating a melanin related affliction in a patient in need thereof, the method comprising the step[[s]] of
- a) ~~identifying a patient in need of treatment for a melanin related affliction, wherein the melanin related affliction is not a melanoma, and wherein the affliction can be treated with an administration of a botulinum toxin, and~~

~~b) administering the a botulinum toxin to the patient in the vicinity of a skin region exhibiting a symptom of the melanin related affliction; of the patient, thereby treating the melanin related affliction.~~

wherein the melanin related affliction is not a melanoma; and

wherein the botulinum toxin administration to the skin region alleviates the melanin related affliction symptom in the patient.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the melanin related affliction is ~~a skin pigmentation disorder~~ associated with decreased pigmentation of the skin region, and the botulinum toxin is administered to ~~increase or decrease the pigmentation of the skin region.~~

20. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 19~~ claim 18, wherein the melanin related affliction is skin pigmentation disorder associated with increased pigmentation of the skin region, and the botulinum toxin is administered to ~~decrease~~ is treated by increasing the pigmentation of the skin region ~~treated so that the treated skin becomes darker.~~

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is administered to reduce the size of the skin region exhibiting a symptom of a melanin related affliction. ~~A method for treating a melanin related affliction, the method comprising the steps of~~

~~a) identifying a patient in need of treatment for a melanin related affliction, wherein the affliction can be treated with an administration of a native botulinum toxin, and~~

~~b) administering the botulinum toxin to a skin of the patient, thereby treating the melanin related affliction.~~

23. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the skin pigmentation disorder is associated with decreased pigmentation of the skin region, and the botulinum toxin is administered to increase pigmentation of the skin region.
24. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the skin pigmentation disorder is associated with increased pigmentation of the skin region, and the botulinum toxin is administered to decrease pigmentation of the skin region.
25. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of a botulinum toxin type A, a botulinum toxin type B, a botulinum toxin type C, a botulinum toxin type D, a botulinum toxin type E, a botulinum toxin type F and a botulinum toxin type G.
26. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the botulinum toxin is a botulinum toxin type A.
27. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the botulinum toxin is administered in an amount of between about 1 unit and about 3,000 units.
28. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the botulinum toxin is administered in an amount of between about 0.001 units/kg to about 35 units/kg of patient weight.
29. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the administration is by topical or subcutaneous administration of the botulinum toxin.
30. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is administered in an amount of between about 0.001 units/kg to about 35 units/kg of patient weight.
31. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the melanin related affliction is associated with decreased pigmentation of the skin region, and the botulinum toxin is administered to increase pigmentation of the skin region.

32. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the melanin related affliction is associated with increased pigmentation of the skin region, and the botulinum toxin is administered to decrease pigmentation of the skin region.
33. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of a botulinum toxin type A, a botulinum toxin type B, a botulinum toxin type C, a botulinum toxin type D, a botulinum toxin type E, a botulinum toxin type F and a botulinum toxin type G.
34. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the botulinum toxin is a botulinum toxin type A.
- 35 (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the botulinum toxin is administered in an amount of between about 1 unit and about 3,000 units.
36. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the botulinum toxin is administered in an amount of between about 0.001 units/kg to about 35 units/kg of patient weight.
37. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the administration is by topical or subcutaneous administration of the botulinum toxin.